



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **KEVIN SHELLEY**

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Proposed Initiative Enters Circulation

Redistricting. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.

SACRAMENTO, CA --- Secretary of State Kevin Shelley announced today that the proponent of a new initiative may begin collecting petition signatures for his measure.

The Attorney General's official title and summary is as follows:

REDISTRICTING. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

- Amends state constitutional provisions governing redistricting of California's Senate, Assembly, Congressional and Board of Equalization districts.
- Requires panel of three retired judges, selected by legislative leaders, to adopt new redistricting plan if this measure passes and again after each national census.
- Panel must consider legislative and voter proposals and hold public hearings.
- Redistricting plan effective upon unanimous adoption by judges' panel and filing with Secretary of State.
- If plan subsequently disapproved by voters, process repeats.
- Specifies time for judicial review of adopted redistricting plan;
- If plan fails to conform to requirements, court may order new plan.

The summary of the estimate by the Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of the fiscal impact on state and local governments indicates one-time state redistricting costs, probably totaling a few million dollars, with comparable savings for each redistricting effort after 2010 (once every ten years). These costs and savings would be accommodated within the Legislature's existing spending limit.

The proponent, Edward J. "Ted" Costa, must collect 598,105 signatures of registered voters, which is eight percent of the total votes cast for governor in the 2002 gubernatorial election. The 150-day deadline to circulate petitions is April 29, 2005. The initiative proponent can be reached at 916-482-6175.

For a copy of the complete text, title & summary, and circulation calendar, please contact the Secretary of State's Press Office at 916-653-6575.